

MR. SPEAKER : I have to give chance to the former Agriculture Minister.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, my question is regarding fertilisers. The answer given by the Minister regarding fertilisers is : "The demand at present outstrips the supply."

The demand of fertiliser is more than the supply. Now the prices of urea have been raised by ten per cent. They say that they are importing some urea. Last year also an effort was made and we saw Rs. 133 crore scandal in which not a bag of urea came to India and the money passed away.

Now, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. Because of short supply of fertiliser, particularly in Punjab and Haryana, there has been a shortage of food production in the country which necessitated imports to the tune of two million tonnes of wheat. We are, at this point of time, importing this huge amount of wheat. If the supply of fertiliser continues to be short again, it is likely that next year also we will have shortage of food supplies in the country. This is a very serious matter. Would the hon. Minister reply whether efforts are being made to meet the entire demand of the people ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Yes Sir. As far as possible it is being planned. ... (Interruptions) We are trying for that.

[Translation]

Godowns in Uttar Pradesh

*326. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the locations and capacity of the FCI godowns situated in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up offices/ godowns of the Food Corporation of India in those districts of State where they are non-existent,

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is being placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Details of locations and capacity of godowns (covered and open) available with the Food Corporation of

India at different locations in Uttar Pradesh are given at Annexures-I and II, respectively.

(b) to (d) The Food Corporation of India sets up offices/ godowns on the basis of requirement and viability and not necessarily in every revenue district of a State. At present, FCI has godown facilities in 62 revenue districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Construction of new godowns has been sanctioned in the following revenue districts:

- (1) Padrauna
- (2) Pithoragarh
- (3) Muzaffarnaga
- (4) Rampur
- (5) Shahjahanpur

Annexure-I

Statement Showing the Storage Capacity (Covered)
(Owned & Hired) Available with the Food
Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh as on
01.02.1997

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Location of the centre	Total Covered Storage Capacity (Owned & Hired)
1	2
Agra	54.98
Shikhabad	24.20
Karhal	0.71
Mainpur	13.35
Baheri	8.00
Bareilly	39.51
Parsakhera	49.17
Bilsanda	4.00
Bilaspur	9.10
Pilibhit	23.53
Puranpur	11.91
Bulandshahar	36.68

1	2	1	2
Khurja	36.10	Tanakpur	3.00
Shyamnagar	8.79	Kitcha	0.90
Barabanki (New)	55.00	Pithoragarh	2.50
Barabanki (Old)	17.56	Bilaspur	25.00
Faizabad	43.73	Rampur	18.20
Sultanpur	9.00	Orai	29.50
Basti	6.37	Jhansi	21.96
Gorakhpur	35.34	Lalitpur	6.53
Nakha	0.01	Etawah	26.33
Purandarpur	2.50	Jaswantnagar	2.78
Dumaria Ganj	0.53	Farrukhabad	5.00
Hapur	76.15	Chanderi (Bins)	72.00
Loni	50.00	Chanderi (FSD)	130.98
Janjathi	2.00	Naubasta	0.32
Meerut	2.00	Pukharayan	2.47
Partappur	29.58	Raibareilly	40.00
Almora	3.00	Jais	3.90
Bazpur	10.00	Maharajganj	1.25
Gadarpur	15.00	Darogakhara	3.75
Gularbhoj	4.20	Lucknow	58.17
Haldachur	30.00	Bangarmau	5.71
Haldwani	4.90	Unnao	6.03
Jaspur	5.70	Badaun	5.00
Kamaluaganj	3.60	Ujhani	8.56
Kashipur	12.40	Bijnor	0.65
Khatima	12.20	Nagina	2.50
Ramnagar	1.00	Amroha	3.55
Rudrapur	52.10	Chandausi	13.00
Sitarganj	8.30	Moradabad	23.34

1	2	1	2
Thakurdwara	2.80	Jangipur	5.63
Bamanhari	45.00	Behraich	6.47
Saharanpur	16.91	Gonda	30.00
Pilkhani	35.00	Prasadpur	5.00
Jaunpur	3.34	Pawayan	2.00
Mirzapur	11.81	Roza	30.00
Robertganj	4.00	Shahajahanpur	13.83
Varanasi	71.00	Hardoi	11.92
Vyasnagar	25.00	Sandila	23.92
Dehradun	11.00	Lakhimpurkheri	14.73
Rishikesh	4.17	Pallia	8.60
Vikasnagar	3.00	Tikunia	2.82
Uttar Kashi	1.28	Sitapur	25.79
Allopibagh	9.00	Jawalapur	5.31
Allahabad	5.00	Roorkee	3.59
Karchana	23.00	Srinagar	5.00
Naini	51.97	Kotdwar	7.50
Fatehpur	39.34	Aligarh	16.07
Pratapgarh	5.00	Harduaganj	82.20
Azamgarh	22.30	Hathras	13.34
Deoria	5.00	Sikandra Rao	5.00
Mau	0.70	Etah	11.89
Attra	13.84	Kasganj	9.16
Banda	14.56	Kosikalan	55.30
Mahoba	10.00	Mathura	13.22
Ballia	2.75	Total (Covered Capacity)	2180.14

Annexure-II

*Statement Showing Cap (Open) Storage Capacity
(Owned & Hired) Available with Food Corporation of
India in Uttar Pradesh as on 01.02.1997*

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Location of the Centre	Cap Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired)
1	2
Agra	16.01
Bareilly	3.00
Pilibhit	4.50
Bilaspur	34.00
Bulandshahar	1.40
Khurja	1.40
Lalpur	57.50
Shyamnagar	1.40
Barabanki	21.30
Basti	2.50
Gorakhpur	2.30
Hapur	7.80
Haldwani	3.50
Khatima	3.00
Rudrapur	2.20
Bilaspur	7.50
Dhamora	65.00
Jhansi	9.40
Chandari	14.00
Talkatora	8.40
Raibareilly	25.00
Moradabad	1.66

1	2
Vyasnagar	13.34
Mirzapur	1.12
Naini	9.50
Azamgarh	4.62
Attra	2.40
Mahoba	2.60
Banda (M.Y.)	12.00
Pawayan	20.00
Roza	40.00
Shahajahanpur	10.00
Hardoi	3.25
Sandila	20.00
Lakhimpurkheri	16.80
Sitapur	1.10
Harduaganj	3.15
Hathras	0.84
	453.57

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : How many lakhs of rupees are lost every year due to storage of wheat and other foodgrains in open godowns ? Whether amount of money lost thus could not have been utilised to construct new godowns ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether they are constructed out of losses incurred or through some other manner....

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Tell us about the losses suffered.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Are you enquiring about the losses of a particular godown or about the losses incurred throughout the country ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : No, please give me the data pertaining to four districts of Bundelkhand.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You should give a separate notice for that and then I'll tell you.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Inform us about these four districts or give me the data pertaining to the entire state of U.P. I would like to know about losses incurred every year in case of lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains stocked in open godowns.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the stock of foodgrains is far below the available capacity in all the godowns of Uttar Pradesh. The godowns have a storage capacity of two million tonnes but the procurement is far lesser hence it would not be correct to say that storage capacity is not available as per requirement. We have more than required capacity and godowns. But at the moment I do not have any information about the amount of wastage that has taken place in each godown. Approximately 87,000 tonnes of foodgrains are lying in the godowns lying closed in 29 districts by the orders of labour tribunals. As there is a dispute, that's why the stock has not been removed.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I am talking about the open godowns.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can tell you about the number of such godowns.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : How much loss is incurred?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can't give you any information or figures regarding wastage right now.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : What I want to ask is ...

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied. You may ask the second supplementary.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : The first question has not been answered as yet.

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the way.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to ask second supplementary question. I seek your protection. The reply furnished by Hon'ble Minister is not correct what I wanted to know was that all the open godown constructed by the Government in U.P....

MR. SPEAKER : If you ask for authentic informations only after giving ten days' time, how can it be managed ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Losses of lakhs of rupees are being incurred. What is the extent of losses suffered in open godowns of Uttar Pradesh where the stock is lying. If he has not got the information at present, he could furnish it in writing.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I said that I do not have the information as yet. I'll send it.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Now I would ask my second supplementary.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Do you want informations regarding Uttar Pradesh only ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Yes, regarding Uttar Pradesh only.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : All right.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister, my second question is that there is an open godown in District Lalitpur which is at a distance of just 30 kilometres from Jhansi and there was a godown in Moranipur in District Jhansi but you have shifted it and transferred the staff to Gorakhpur. On one hand, tonnes of stock is lying in open uncovered godowns. Then what are the reasons for closing down the godowns in Uttar Pradesh ? Under what policy of F.C.I. and under which Departmental policy, such godowns are being vacated which were once hired by it and instead F.C.I. is storing tonnes of foodgrains in open godowns. What are the reasons therefor ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will get an enquiry conducted into the specific matter he has referred to. As for the new locations under consideration for setting up of godowns, I have already furnished the list and we are facing problems in case of two locations. Chamoli is located far off. It is a hilly area. Right now the facilities available in Srinagar and Haldwani are utilised but it is still quite far off. Secondly Tehri Garhwal is another far off area, I have asked the Department to consider this matter.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I have not got the reply. Hon'ble Minister, kindly listen to my questions.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Kindly listen to me at least.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Agnihotri, you cannot go on interrupting like that. Please listen to the Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister does not want to hear the questions and he also does not wish to reply to it later on.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Why don't you listen to me. You were saying about Jhansi that staff has been transferred from there ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do like that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister, that is not my question. The Government has set up open godowns at a number of places in Uttar Pradesh. There is one such godown in Lalitpur. But you are getting vacated the godown located at Moranipur in Jhansi and also transferring the staff. What I mean to say is that on one hand you are setting up open godowns and on the other hand you are getting vacated the godowns available with you. I would like to know the reasons therefor ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have been informed that there is no open godown in Lalitpur. But now that you are saying it, I'll get an enquiry conducted.

MR. SPEAKER : Please look into this matter.

[English]

Shrimp Farming

327. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an authority under clause (3) of Section 3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 as per the directions of December 11, 1996 of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the restrictions imposed on the shrimp farming as per orders of the Court;

(d) the total loss of foreign exchange earnings due to this judgement;

(e) whether Government are planning to rehabilitate the affected fishermen; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests through a Notification (No. S.O. 88(E) dated 6.2.97 constituted an "Aquaculture Authority" under Sub-Section (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, in accordance with the Supreme Court's judgement dated 11.12.96. The Authority shall be headed by a retired judge of a High Court with members drawn from the Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce, Environment and Forests as well as experts in the field of Environment protection, aquaculture

and pollution control. The functions of the Authority include issue of approval to undertake shrimp culture activities, implementation of "precautionary principles" and the "polluter pays" principle, ensuring payment of compensation to workmen employed in the shrimp culture industries; deal with environmental issues pertaining to coastal areas, etc. as indicated in the Supreme Court's judgement dated 11.12.96.

(c) The Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on 11.12.96 has imposed certain restrictions on shrimp farming along the coastal belt. The judgement *inter-alia* states that :

- (i) No shrimp culture pond can be constructed or set up within the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) except farms practising traditional and improved types of technologies in the coastal low lying areas. This shall be applicable to all seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and backwaters.
- (ii) All aquaculture industries/shrimp culture industries/shrimp culture ponds operating/set up in the coastal regulation zone as defined under the CRZ Notification shall be demolished and removed from the said area before March 31, 1997.
- (iii) No aquaculture industry/shrimp culture industry/shrimp culture ponds shall be constructed/set up within 1000 metre of Chilka Lake and Pulicat lake (including Bird Sanctuaries, namely, Yudurapattu and Nelapattu).
- (iv) Agricultural lands, salt pan lands, mangroves, wet lands, forest lands, land for village common purposes, shall not be used/converted for construction of shrimp culture ponds.
- (v) Aquaculture industry/shrimp culture ponds other than traditional and improved traditional may be set up/constructed outside the Coastal Regulation Zone with prior approval of the 'authority'.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the quantum of loss of foreign exchange at this stage.

(e) and (f) The Government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking review of its judgement dated 11.12.96 which has not been listed as yet. The question of rehabilitation if any will arise after the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, on this review Petition. The matter is sub-judice.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the recent landmark judgement, the hon. Supreme Court has ordered the demolition and removal of aqua farms in the Coastal Regulation Zones before March 31, 1997. The findings of the Supreme Court are that these